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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

22850	7590	03/30/2010

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, L.L.P.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER
ZIA, SYED

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2431	

DATE MAILED: 03/30/2010

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/440,692	11/16/1999	TETSURO MOTOYAMA	5244-0104-2X	3301

TITLE OF INVENTION: REMOTE SYSTEM USAGE MONITORING WITH FLEXIBLE ENCODING AND DECODING OBJECTS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	$1510	$0	$0	$1510	06/30/2010

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PTOL-85 (Rev. 08/07) Approved for use through 08/31/2010.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: <u>Mail</u> Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/440,692	11/16/1999	TETSURO MOTOYAMA	5244-0104-2X	3301

TITLE OF INVENTION: REMOTE SYSTEM USAGE MONITORING WITH FLEXIBLE ENCODING AND DECODING OBJECTS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	$1510	$0	$0	$1510	06/30/2010

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
ZIA, SYED	2431	709-224000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).
   ❏ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
   ❏ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list
   (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
   (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

   1 _____
   2 _____
   3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

   PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

   (A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE   (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

   Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ❏ Individual ❏ Corporation or other private group entity ❏ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:
   ❏ Issue Fee
   ❏ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
   ❏ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): **(Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)**
   ❏ A check is enclosed.
   ❏ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
   ❏ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)
   ❏ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.   ❏ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____   Date _____

Typed or printed name _____   Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

PTOL-85 (Rev. 08/07) Approved for use through 08/31/2010.   OMB 0651-0033   U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/440,692	11/16/1999	TETSURO MOTOYAMA	5244-0104-2X	3301

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EXAMINER
ZIA, SYED

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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DATE MAILED: 03/30/2010

Determination of Patent Term Extension under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed after June 7, 1995 but prior to May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Extension is 0 day(s). Any patent to issue from the above-identified application will include an indication of the 0 day extension on the front page.

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Extension is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

PTOL-85 (Rev. 08/07) Approved for use through 08/31/2010.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/440,692	MOTOYAMA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	SYED ZIA	2431

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *reply brief dated 06/04/2007*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1, 3-9, 11-17, 19-25, and 27-32*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:
        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
        Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____ .

/Syed Zia/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2431

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, 19-25, and 27-32 are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Amended) A system comprising:

a device comprising an interface, the interface comprising a plurality of operations to be selected by a user;

a monitoring device configured to monitor data of selecting of the plurality of operations of the interface by the user, and to encode and store the monitored data into a log file in the device;

a communicating device configured to receive the log file of the monitored data, to

decode the stored encoded log file, to create a message of the monitored data, and to then

communicate the message of the monitored data;

wherein the monitoring device includes a control to automatically start the monitoring

without an input from a device to which the message of the monitored data is to be

communicated, and

wherein the communicating device includes a control to automatically communicate

the message of the monitored data by a unidirectional communication without requiring input

from the device to which the message of the monitored data is to be communicated.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] system according to Claim 1, wherein the device

is an image forming device and the interface is an operation panel of the image forming

device.

4. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] system according to Claim 1, wherein the device is

an appliance and the interface is an operation panel of the appliance.

5. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] system according to Claim 1, wherein the

communicating device sends the log of the monitored data when the user exits the device.

6. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] system according to Claim 1, further comprising a

setting unit configured to set a number of sessions of the device to be executed by the user

prior to the communicating device communicating the log file of the monitored data.

7. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] system according to Claim 1, wherein the

monitoring device encodes the monitored data into the log file and the communicating device

decodes the monitored data from the log file by defining the encoding and decoding objects as

abstract classes and defining derived classes to include encoding and decoding algorithms.

8. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] system according to any one of Claims 1-7, wherein

the communicating device communicates the log of the monitored data by Internet mail.

9. (Previously Amended) A system comprising:

a device comprising interface means, the interface means for providing a plurality of

operations to be selected by a user;

monitoring means for monitoring data of selecting of the plurality of operations of the

interface means by the user, and for encoding and storing the monitored data into a log file in

the device;

communicating means for receiving the log file of the monitored data, for decoding

the stored encoded log file, for creating a message of the monitored data, and for

communicating the message of the monitored data;

wherein the monitoring means includes a control to automatically start the monitoring

without an input from a device to which the message of the monitored data is to be

communicated, and

wherein the communicating means includes a control to automatically communicate

the message of the monitored data by a unidirectional communication without requiring input

from the device to which the message of the monitored data is to be communicated.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] system according to Claim 9, wherein the device

is an image forming device and the interface means is an operation panel of the image forming

device.

12. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] system according to Claim 9, wherein the device is an appliance and the interface means is an operation panel of the appliance.

13. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] system according to Claim 9, wherein the communicating means sends the log of the monitored data when the user exits the device.

14. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] system according to Claim 9, further comprising a setting means for setting a number of sessions of the device to be executed by the user prior to the communicating means communicating the log of the monitored data.

15. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] system according to Claim 9, wherein the monitoring means encodes the monitored data into the log file and the communicating means decodes the monitored data from the log file by defining the encoding and decoding objects as abstract classes and defining derived classes to include encoding and decoding algorithms.

16. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] system according to any one of Claims 9-15, wherein the communicating means communicates the log of the monitored data by Internet mail.

17. (Previously Amended) A method of monitoring usage of an interface of a device, the interface including a plurality of operations to be selected by a user, comprising the steps of:

monitoring data of selecting the plurality of operations of the interface selected by the user;

generating a log file of the monitored data by encoding the monitored data and storing the encoded monitored data into the log file in the device; and

creating a message of the monitored data by reading the encoded monitored data from the log file and decoding the encoded monitored data, and communicating the message of the monitored data;

wherein the monitoring includes a control operation to automatically start the monitoring without an input from a device to which the message of the monitored data is to be communicated, and

wherein the communicating includes a control operation to automatically communicate the message of the monitored data by a unidirectional communication without requiring input from the device to which the message of the monitored data is to be communicated.

18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim 17, wherein the device is an image forming device and the interface is an operation panel of the image forming device.

20. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim 17, wherein the device is an appliance and the interface is an operation panel of the appliance.

21. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim 17, wherein the communicating step sends the log of the monitored data when the user exits the device.

22. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to Claim 17, further comprising a step of setting a number of sessions of the device to be executed by the user prior to the communicating device communicating the log of the monitored data.

23. A system according to Claim 17, wherein the encoding step encodes the monitored data into the log file and the decoding step decodes the monitored data from the log file by

defining the encoding and decoding objects as abstract classes and defining derived classes to include encoding and decoding algorithms.

24. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to any one of Claims 17-23, wherein the communicating step communicates the log of the monitored data by Internet mail.

25. (Previously Amended) A computer program product comprising:

a computer storage medium and a computer program code mechanism embedded in the computer storage medium for causing a computer to monitor a user's usage of an interface of a device, the interface comprising a plurality of operations to be Selected by a user, comprising:

a first computer code device configured to monitor data of selecting of the plurality of operations of the interface by the user, and to encode and store the monitored data into a log file in the device;

a second computer code device configured to receive the log file of the monitored data, to decode the stored encoded log file, to create a message of the monitored data, and to then communicate the message of the monitored data;

wherein the first computer code device includes a control code to automatically start the monitoring without an input from a device to which the message of the monitored data is to be communicated, and

wherein the second computer code device includes a control code to automatically communicate the message of the monitored data by a unidirectional communication without requiring input from the device to which the message of the monitored data is to be communicated.

26. (Canceled).

27. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] computer program product according to Claim 25, wherein the device is an image forming device and the interface is an operation panel of the image forming device.

28. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] computer program product according to Claim 25, wherein the device is an appliance and the interface is an operation panel of the appliance.

29. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] computer program product according to Claim 25, wherein the second computer code device is further configured to send the log of the monitored data when the user exits the device.

30. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] computer program product according to Claim 25, further comprising a third computer code device configured to set a number of sessions of the device to be executed by the user prior to the second computer code device communicating the log of the monitored data.

31. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] computer program product according to Claim 25, wherein the second computer code device encodes the monitored data into the log file and decodes the monitored data from the log file by defining the encoding and decoding objects as abstract classes and defining derived classes to include encoding and decoding algorithms.

32. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] computer program product according to any one of Claims 25-31, wherein the second computer code device is further configured to communicate the log of the monitored data by Internet mail.

1.   Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than
the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably
accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on
Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

        Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to SYED ZIA whose telephone number is (571)272-3798.
The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 to 5:00.

        If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the
organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

        Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the
Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for
published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status
information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For
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have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business
Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO
Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call
800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

sz
March 9, 2010

/Syed   Zia/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2431